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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/610,158	06/30/2000	William J. Veeneman	9203/046 RE	3096

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PATTON BOGGS
PO BOX 270930
LOUISVILLE, CO 80027

EXAMINER

DIXON, THOMAS A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3629

DATE MAILED: 08/09/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/610,158

Applicant(s)

VEENEMAN ET AL.

Examiner

Thomas A. Dixon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 June 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Oath/Declaration

1. Claims 1-29 remain rejected because the oath or declaration is defective. The declaration is not, in fact, a Reissue Oath/Declaration. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.175 and MPEP §§1414 is required.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

a) The reissue oath/declaration filed with this application fails to state that the person making the oath or declaration acknowledges the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56. The rule does not contain the terms "substantial likelihood... reasonable examiner..."

b) The reissue oath/declaration filed with this application is defective because it fails to identify at least one error which is relied upon to support the reissue application. See 37 CFR 1.175(a)(1) and MPEP §§1414.

c) The reissue oath/declaration filed with this application is defective because it fails to contain a statement that all errors which are being corrected in the reissue application up to the time of filing of the oath/declaration arose without any deceptive intent on the part of the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.175(a)(1) and MPEP §§1414.

Surrender of Patent

2. The original patent, or a statement as to loss or inaccessibility of the original patent must be received before this reissue application can be allowed. See 37 CFR 1.178

Information Disclosure Statement

3. Examiner request that applicant file IDS with all the art cited in the parent cases, and specifically requests copies of the non-patent literature as it appears to have benn lost from the file.

Assent of Assignee

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4. The statement under 3.73(b) which establishes the right of the assignee to take action cannot be located, please resubmit.

Improper Recapture

5. The rejection under 35 USC 251 as improper recapture is withdrawn in view of applicant's amendments of the claims.

Drawings

6. This application has been filed with drawings that have been objected to by the draftsman and are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-29 are allowable over the prior art of record.
8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per Claims 1, 9, 13, 15, 20, 25.

The prior art of record, specifically Chain Store Age Executive in view of Bianco (5,047,624) does not disclose or fairly teach the portable input and storage device for use with a plurality of participating merchant stores in a shopping area storing a unique identifier for the particular merchant associated with each desired gift.

The claims which depend from the above allowable claims are allowable for the same reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

As per Claim 1.

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Chain Store Age Executive discloses:

a first data entry system through which first information and inquiries about registrants in the gift registry are entered into the gift registry system, the first information including at least the registrant's name;

a second data entry system capable of receiving second information, the second information including a list of potential gifts which the registrant has identified and a unique identifier associated with the particular merchant having each of the desired gifts;

a database storage system that stores and retrieves the first and second information about the registrant and the unique identifier associated with the particular information about the registrant and the unique identifier associated with the particular merchant having the desired gifts; and

a display system that displays the list of potential gifts for a particular registrant and information about the particular merchants the desired gifts are from, including the unique identifier associated with the particular merchant having each of the desired gifts, in response to an inquiry from a prospective purchaser.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Dixon whose telephone number is (703) 305-4645. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (703) 308-2702. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7687 for regular communications and (703) 305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas A. Dixon".

Thomas A. Dixon
Examiner
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August 8, 2002